

5  
THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

*Handwritten signature*

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTION

OF THE

SAINT LOUIS

MERCANTILE LIBRARY

ASSOCIATION.

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ST. LOUIS:  
PRINTED FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

1880.

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*ST. LOUIS:*  
*Press of G. I. Jones and Company.*

OFFICERS  
OF THE  
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE YEAR 1880.

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*PRESIDENT:*  
THOMAS E. TUTT.

*VICE - PRESIDENT:*  
ROBERT E. CARR.

*SECRETARIES:*  
*Corresponding,* ROBERT B. WHITTEMORE. *Recording,* WILLIAM L. SCOTT.

*TREASURER:*  
JOHN R. LIONBERGER.

*DIRECTORS:*  
ROBT. S. BROOKINGS, CHARLES E. SLAYBACK,  
JOHN J. CANTWELL, EDWARD C. SIMMONS,  
EDWARD D. MEIER, EDWARD J. GLASGOW, JR.

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*ACTUARY AND LIBRARIAN:*  
JOHN N. DYER.

*ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS:*  
*First,* W. H. H. ANDERSON. *Second,* JAMES A. YEATMAN.

*DESK CLERKS:*  
HOWARD M. GOODE. E. G. PETERSON.

*JANITOR:*  
SAMUEL CLEGG.

## COMMITTEES FOR 1880.

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### *WAYS AND MEANS:*

ROBERT E. CARR,            JOHN J. CANTWELL.  
ROBERT S. BROOKINGS.

### *LIBRARY AND READING-ROOM:*

ROBT. B. WHITTEMORE, CHARLES E. SLAYBACK,  
EDWARD D. MEIER.

### *BOOKS AND DONATIONS:*

WILLIAM L. SCOTT, ROBERT S. BROOKINGS,  
ROBERT E. CARR,        ROBERT B. WHITTEMORE.

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### *LECTURES:*

JOHN R. LIONBERGER,        EDWARD C. SIMMONS,  
EDWARD J. GLASGOW, JR.

### *HALL AND BUILDING:*

THOMAS E. TUTT,            ROBERT E. CARR,  
JOHN R. LIONBERGER.

## PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

[illegible]

TRUSTEES.

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JAMES E. YEATMAN,	J. B. S. LEMOINE,
JOHN H. BEACH,	JOHN W. LUKE,
RICHARD M. SCRUGGS.	



THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE  
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,  
JANUARY 13, 1880.

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ROOMS OF MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,<sup>5</sup> }  
ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the association, held this evening, was called to order by the president, R. R. Hutchinson, on whose motion Mr. Gerard B. Allen was called to the chair.

On motion of Messrs. Luke and Hutchinson, Messrs. W. C. Buchanan and John R. Lionberger were appointed secretaries.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The committee on ways and means submitted the following report: —

ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880.

The committee on ways and means beg leave to report that they have examined the books and accounts of the association, and find the same correct, and properly substantiated by vouchers for all disbursements made.

W. A. HARGADINE,  
R. B. WHITTEMORE,  
*Committee.*

On motion of Mr. John R. Lionberger, the report of the committee on ways and means was received and adopted.

The treasurer, Mr. Thomas E. Tutt, read his report,

giving a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures for the year, which, on motion, was received and adopted.

The president, Mr. R. R. Hutchinson, read the report of the board of direction, which was received, and, on motion of Mr. Alfred Carr, unanimously adopted.

Mr. John W. Luke offered the following resolution : —

*Resolved*, That the report of the board of direction for the past year, as read by the president, shows a very gratifying condition of the affairs of the library, and the thanks of the association are hereby tendered to the officers and members of the board for the faithful manner in which they have discharged the duty imposed on them.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Alfred Carr offered the following resolution : —

*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be furnished the daily papers of the city for publication, and that six hundred copies of the same be printed in pamphlet form for gratuitous circulation.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Edwin Harrison, the meeting adjourned.

GERARD B. ALLEN,  
*Chairman.*

W. C. BUCHANAN, }  
J. R. LIONBERGER, } *Secretaries.*



# TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

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MERCANTILE LIBRARY, }  
ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880. }

GENTLEMEN : — I have the honor to submit the following report of my receipts and disbursements during the year ending December 31, 1879, and of the present financial condition of the association, viz. :

Exhibit “ A ” — Cash account.

Exhibit “ B ” — Balance sheet.

Exhibit “ C ” — Profit and loss account.

## EXHIBIT "A" — CASH ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
To Balance from last report . .	\$1,369 92	By Books . . . . .	\$4,030 32
To memberships account —		Books — British Patents . . . .	136 46 —
Initiation fees . . . . .	\$310 00	Binding and repairing books . .	\$4,166 78
Life-members . . . . .	800 00	Grand hall . . . . .	1,425 42
Proprietors . . . . .	2,035 00	Ante-rooms . . . . .	898 02
Clerks . . . . .	2,580 00	Insurance . . . . .	66 21
Beneficiaries . . . . .	3,511 00 —	Interest . . . . .	1,465 00
To rentals account —	9,236 00	Magazines . . . . .	2,220 00
Hall stores . . . . .	11,605 27	Newspapers . . . . .	135 77
Grand hall . . . . .	5,340 00	Periodicals . . . . .	578 63
Ante-rooms . . . . .	130 00 —	Organ repairs . . . . .	476 33
To miscellaneous account —	17,075 27	Repairs of building . . . . .	14 00
Organ rentals . . . . .	45 00	Salaries . . . . .	1,159 19
Fines . . . . .	597 65	Mercantile Library Hall Company	8,024 15
Extra books . . . . .	422 50	Sinking-fund, 4 U. S. 4 p. c. bonds	53 95
Magazines . . . . .	132 90	By expense account —	4,053 75
Newspapers sold . . . . .	50	Advertising . . . . .	142 85
Books lost and paid for . . . .	16 10	Fuel . . . . .	216 30
Catalogues sold . . . . .	5 00 —	Furniture repairs . . . . .	25 00
		Ice . . . . .	92 80
		Lights . . . . .	1,858 97
		Petty expenses . . . . .	541 54
		Printing . . . . .	192 87
		Postage . . . . .	61 90
		Stationery . . . . .	166 57
		Freight . . . . .	118 01
		Water supply . . . . .	160 00 —
		Balance — Cash in treasury . .	3,576 81
			586 83
			<u>\$28,900 84</u>
			<u>\$28,900 84</u>

## EXHIBIT "B" — BALANCE SHEET.

11

EXHIBIT "C" —PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

DEBIT.		CREDIT.	
To Binding . . . . .	\$1,425 42	By Ante-rooms . . . . .	\$63 79
British Patents . . . . .	136 46	Beneficiaries . . . . .	3,511 00
Expense . . . . .	3,576 81	Books donated . . . . .	956 53
Insurance . . . . .	1,465 00	Books, extra issue of . . . . .	422 50
Interest . . . . .	2,220 00	Clerks . . . . .	2,580 00
Magazines . . . . .	2 87	Fine arts . . . . .	3,000 00
Repairs . . . . .	1,159 19	Fines . . . . .	597 65
Salaries . . . . .	8,024 15	Grand hall . . . . .	4,441 98
Balance — Net gain this year . . . . .	12,344 82	Initiation fees . . . . .	310 00
		Life-members . . . . .	800 00
		Organ rentals . . . . .	31 00
		Proprietors . . . . .	2,035 00
		Stores . . . . .	11,605 27
	<u>\$30,354 72</u>		<u>\$30,354 72</u>

Very respectfully,

THOMAS E. TUTT,  
*Treasurer.*



# ANNUAL REPORT.

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ROOMS OF MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, }  
ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880. }

*To the Members of the St. Louis Mercantile Library Association.*

GENTLEMEN : — The thirty-fourth year of the existence of your association has passed, and it becomes the duty of the board of direction to advise you of the manner in which it has taken care of the trust confided to it by you, and to give a brief statement of the history of the institution during the past year, and of its present condition and prospects.

As shown by the following statement, our gain for the year, in the number of members, is but small — twenty-seven in all — and this gain has been made only in the last four months. We trust that this may prove a true indication that the general improvement in business has at last reached us, and that the coming year will show a more substantial increase, and one that will reflect more credit on the good taste and culture of the St. Louis public.

The membership list is as follows : —

January 1, 1879 . . . . .	3,195
Added during the year . . . . .	366
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	3,561
Lost by death, removal, etc. . . . .	339
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Leaving at present . . . . .	3,222

Classified as follows : —

Honorary members . . . . .	20
Life-members . . . . .	667
Proprietors . . . . .	469
Clerks . . . . .	1,006
Beneficiaries . . . . .	1,060
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Total . . . . .	3,222



## BOOKS.

The amount which we have been able to appropriate to the purchase of books during the year is \$4,167.78, against only \$1,847.38 for the previous twelve months; and the expenditures for binding have been large in proportion. It is gratifying that we have been able to increase thus largely the sum expended in a manner so beneficial to the interests of the Library, and the augmentation in the number of volumes on our shelves, in their character and value, will be found fully to correspond with the increased outlay.

The following list exhibits in detail the work and expenditure in the book department, and, when compared with the previous year's report, shows a gain of 2,367 volumes, and an increased outlay of \$2,231.97 in the purchase of new and the repair and preservation of old books.

Volumes reported last year . . . . .	50,916
Added during the year 1879, viz. —	
Volumes purchased . . . . .	1,788
Volumes periodicals bound . . . . .	314
Volumes newspapers bound . . . . .	17
Volumes presented . . . . .	360
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	2,479
From which deduct —	
Volumes lost and paid for . . . . .	10
Worn out and condemned . . . . .	102— 112
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Leaving a net increase of . . . . .	2,367
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And a grand total of . . . . .	53,283
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Volumes bound during the year . . . . .	2,031
Volumes repaired during the year . . . . .	624
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Total . . . . .	2,655

The expenditures by the book committee have been as follows : —

For the purchase of books . . . . .	\$4,166 78
For the purchase of newspapers . . . . .	578 63
For the purchase of periodicals . . . . .	476 33
For binding and repairing books . . . . .	1,425 42
	<hr/>
Total . . . . .	\$6,647 16

Among the purchases for the year are many works of great beauty and value, which well deserve a careful examination by the lovers of art. The titles of a few of them are given in the following list: —

- Bergerat, M. E. *Les Chefs-d'œuvre d'Art, à l'Exposition Universelle, 1878.*  
*Encyclopædia Britannica.* 9th edition.  
 Ferguson, James. *Temples of the Jews.*  
 Garnier, Charles. *Le Nouvel Opéra de Paris.*  
 Glück, —. *L'Album de l'Exposition.*  
 Grimoüard de Saint Laurent, Henri J. *Guide de l'Art Chrétien. Etudes d'Esthétique et d'Iconographie.*  
 Isabelle, M. E. *Les Edifices Circulaires et les Dômes.*  
 Laborde, Alex. (Comte). *Les Monumens de la France.*  
 Michaud, J. F. *Histoire des Croisades.* Illustree par Gustave Doré.  
 Renan, E. *Mission de Phénicie.*  
 Russell, W. H. *The Prince of Wales's Tour in India.*

Upwards of five hundred volumes of popular French and German books, including the works of many standard modern authors, are among the year's additions to our shelves. Three cases of new English books, all late productions, have just arrived, and will be ready for issue in a few days. They number about four hundred volumes, and comprise the choicest works lately issued from the English press.

We have also been favored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science with a gift of a complete set of its publications, twenty-seven volumes; we have received donations from the British Commissioners of Patents, sixty-seven volumes; from Missouri State Board of Agriculture, sixty-three volumes; and from Harvard and Yale Colleges, complete sets of their catalogues and reports.

Another pleasing feature of the year's work is a very handsome increase in the number and improvement in the character of the books issued to readers. The increase in the issue amounts to 8,958 volumes, and the classification shows a decided diminution in the number of books of fiction called for, contrasted with a largely increased demand for works of a higher class. The account of books issued



is so carefully kept that there is no room for a suspicion of mistake, and as the same feature was exhibited, though in a less degree, in our last annual report, when comparing 1877 with 1878, the conclusion that the appreciation of the higher classes of literature is becoming more diffused among us seems as certain as it is gratifying.

The statement of books issued is as follows : —

Number of books issued to subscribers during the year is . . . 119,997

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1878.	1879.
History . . . . .	19,093	22,773
Philosophy . . . . .	24,463	25,370
Poetry and Art . . . . .	10,082	15,908
Fiction . . . . .	57,401	55,946
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	111,039	119,997

PERCENTAGE OF EACH CLASS.

	1878	1879.
History . . . . .	17.1	18.9
Philosophy . . . . .	22.0	21.1
Poetry and Art . . . . .	9.1	13.3
Fiction . . . . .	51.8	46.7

The want of additional shelf-room is again becoming urgent, and some measures will have to be taken to supply the necessity by providing cases for four or five thousand volumes. This can only be done by a rearrangement of those now in the library-room, and an addition to their number. This will render the room — already too dark — darker still, and necessitate the use of gas during the day-time to a greater extent than before, thus adding to the heavy expenditure for gas which we are now called upon to meet. These gas-bills amount to more than \$2,500 per annum, and form an important item in our expense account. Every effort has been made to diminish the consumption, by removing a large number of burners, but the bills remain about the same.

CATALOGUE.

The card catalogue is kept up, and is very complete as regards all books obtained since its commencement, about three years ago. Every book is listed by the author's name and by the subject treated of—a single book sometimes requiring as many as fifty cards in the classification of its subject-matter under the proper heads.

BUILDING.

The building is in as good condition as the means of the association allow, though a great deal could be most advantageously expended in its improvement and adornment. The expenditure for repairs during the year amounts to \$1,159.19, which was all that could be spared. The reading-room has been repainted, the chess-room papered, the corridors painted and whitened, the grand hall brushed up, and the old hot-air furnace used for heating the library-room replaced by a new one. These, with some other indispensable repairs, exhausted the sum we were enabled to appropriate for such purposes.

Insurance on the building and contents remains the same as reported last year, viz. : —

On the building . . . . .	\$60,000
On the contents . . . . .	95,000
Total . . . . .	<u>\$155,000</u>

All of your stores are rented to good tenants, and no rent payments are in arrear. The receipts from the grand hall have been \$5,340, against \$5,302 in 1878. There is a sum of \$100 still uncollected, which should be added to this year's receipts. The room is greatly in need of painting, and the seats should be upholstered anew.

FINANCES.

The stock account, January 1, 1879, showed a total of \$273,881.94, and, as shown by balance-sheet, now aggregates \$286,226.76 — a gain of \$12,344.82 for the year.



The treasurer's report, which has been read to you, exhibits in detail the present financial condition of the association, and shows that your board of direction have carried out your instructions, given at the last annual meeting, in regard to the creation of a sinking-fund.

The amount due the Mercantile Library Hall Company has been reduced, by a payment of \$53.95, to \$4,311.61, and we have good reason to hope that we shall never be called upon to pay this. The association owes not a single dollar of floating debt, and the sinking-fund contains \$4,000 United States four per cent bonds, valued at \$4,053.75, which, with the cash on hand, \$586.83 — total, \$4,640.58 — shows the amount of the reduction of your debt during the year. That debt now stands as follows: —

Loan at six per cent per annum . . . . .	\$37,000 00
Less cash and sinking-fund . . . . .	4,640 58
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Total . . . . .	\$32,359 42

The number of strangers who have during the year availed themselves of the use of our rooms, extended to them free of cost for thirty days, is 561. During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Memphis, the refugees from that city were invited to make use of the rooms, and the invitation was accepted by a large number of them.

Since our last annual meeting, Mr. J. H. Alexander, another of the former presidents of our association, and its warm friend and supporter always, has been removed from among us by death. Resolutions of respect and regret have been passed by your board and recorded on the minutes.

We cannot better close this brief summary of the history of the Mercantile Library Association of St. Louis during the year 1879 than by announcing to you the generous gift made to it by Mr. John H. Beach, of the four fine oil paintings, by George C. Bingham, which already orna-



ment the walls of your reading-room. The pictures are entitled, —

Stump Speaking,	The Election,
Announcing the Vote,	The Jolly Flatboatmen.

These pictures, always of interest as delineating some of the phases of Western life of forty years ago, are of great merit, and have, since the death of the artist, become specially valuable. They will be counted among the most valued of our art-treasures, and constitute a handsome memorial of the generosity of the giver.

R. R. HUTCHINSON,  
*President.*



# APPENDIX.



## GIFTS DURING THE YEAR 1879.

GIVERS.	VOLS.	PPHS.
American Association for the Advancement of Science .	27	. . .
American Institute of Mining Engineers . . . . .	2	. . .
Arkansas, State of . . . . .	1	. . .
Astor Library, New York . . . . .	1	. . .
Bell, Mrs. Leverett . . . . .	. . .	12
Bebrose, Jr., Louis . . . . .	1	. . .
Betts, Rev. G. C. . . . .	1	. . .
Boston Board of Health . . . . .	. . .	1
Boston Public Library . . . . .	3	2
Brown, B. Gratz . . . . .	. . .	3
Campbell, Rev. C. D. N. . . . .	2	. . .
Carter, John H. . . . .	1	. . .
Chicago Public Library . . . . .	. . .	2
Cincinnati Public Library . . . . .	3	12
Clarke, Robert . . . . .	. . .	1
Cole, Hon. Nathan . . . . .	21	. . .
Crawford, C. G. . . . .	1	. . .
Crawford, W. H. . . . .	1	. . .
Delany, John O'F. . . . .	2	. . .
Dickenga, J. E. . . . .	1	. . .
Dillon, John A. . . . .	10	. . .
Doherty, Rev. D. J. . . . .	2	. . .
Goode, H. M. . . . .	6	. . .
Grady, Mrs. Mary . . . . .	. . .	13
Gray-Baker Book and Stationery Company . . . . .	2	. . .
Great Britain, Commissioners of Patents . . . . .	67	. . .
Hains, Maj. P. C. . . . .	2	. . .
Hartford College Library . . . . .	. . .	1
Hartford Young Men's Institute . . . . .	. . .	1
Harvard College . . . . .	4	21
Harvey, James . . . . .	1	. . .
Helper, H. R. . . . .	2	. . .
Hutchinson, R. R. . . . .	1	. . .
Hughey, G. W. . . . .	1	. . .
Jewett, E. E. . . . .	4	. . .



GIVERS.	VOLS	PpHS.
Jones & Co., G. I. . . . .	1	. . .
Kershaw, Dr. J. M. . . . .	1	. . .
King, Moses . . . . .	1	. . .
Leslie, Edward G. . . . .	. . .	9
Macnally, D. R. . . . .	1	1
McRee, William G. . . . .	1	. . .
Melcher, J. F. . . . .	2	. . .
Milwaukee Public Library . . . . .	. . .	1
Missouri State Board of Agriculture . . . . .	. . .	1
Missouri State University . . . . .	63	. . .
Morelle, A. L. . . . .	1	. . .
Morgan, H. H. . . . .	1	. . .
Moritz, Charles . . . . .	1	. . .
Myer, Gen'l A. J. . . . .	16	. . .
New York Mercantile Library Association . . . . .	. . .	1
New York Produce Exchange . . . . .	1	. . .
New York State Library . . . . .	2	. . .
Pratt, George C. . . . .	1	. . .
Pulsifer, William H. . . . .	1	. . .
Ramsey, Charles G. . . . .	2	. . .
Reaser, Rev. J. G. . . . .	1	. . .
Relfe, W. S. . . . .	1	. . .
Richmond, Va., Board of Health . . . . .	. . .	1
Ryan, Rt. Rev. P. J. . . . .	1	. . .
St. Louis Art Society . . . . .	. . .	1
St. Louis Board of Health . . . . .	. . .	1
St. Louis City . . . . .	2	. . .
St. Louis Fair and Exposition . . . . .	. . .	1
St. Louis Loan Exhibition . . . . .	1	. . .
St. Louis Public School Library . . . . .	. . .	3
San Francisco Mercantile Library . . . . .	. . .	1
Shannon, Hon. R. D. . . . .	1	. . .
Shaw, Henry . . . . .	1	. . .
Sherman, Gen'l W. T. . . . .	1	. . .
Simpson, Col. James H. . . . .	1	. . .
Skues, R. A. . . . .	3	. . .
Smee, Alfred . . . . .	1	. . .
Smithsonian Institute . . . . .	9	. . .
Sonneschein, Rev. S. H. . . . .	1	. . .
Sunderland, B. . . . .	1	. . .
Tracy, John H. . . . .	5	. . .
Triplett, John R. . . . .	. . .	1
United States Engineers Department . . . . .	2	. . .
United States Interior Department . . . . .	59	. . .

GIVERS.	VOLS.	PPHS.
United States Navy Department . . . . .	1	. . .
United States State Department . . . . .	5	. . .
United States Treasury Department . . . . .	1	. . .
United States War Department . . . . .	7	. . .
Warder, George W. . . . .	1	. . .
Warfield, E. W. . . . .	2	. . .
Warren County Library . . . . .	. . .	2
Washington and Lee University . . . . .	. . .	1
Washington University . . . . .	. . .	1
Waterhouse, S. . . . .	1	. . .
Wherry, Col. William M. . . . .	12	. . .
Woodward, Tiernan & Hale . . . . .	1	. . .
Yale College. . . . .	6	20
Yeatman, James A. . . . .	1	. . .

